

**AYLESFORD PARISH COUNCIL
MEETING OF THE COUNCIL
AT AYLESFORD VILLAGE COMMUNITY CENTRE
19 NOVEMBER 2013**

MINUTES

Present: Cllrs Gledhill (Chairman), Ambrose, Base, Mrs Brooks, Elvy, Mrs Gadd, Green, Homewood, Rillie, Smith, Tiller, Wright

Others: One Member of the Public

In Attendance: Mr Harris, Clerk Mrs Collier, Deputy Clerk

Apologies: Cllrs Balcombe, Ms Hurley, Winnett

AGENDA ITEM 1

98. Declarations of Interest additional to those disclosed in the Members' Register of Interests

There were no other declarations of interest additional to those listed in the Members' Register of Interests.

AGENDA ITEM 2

99. Apologies for absence - Noted.

AGENDA ITEM 3

100. Chairman's Announcements

100.1 – Diary of 2014 meetings has been published. Members were asked to note the new venue for the March and May Council meetings – Aylesford Football Club pavilion.

100.2 – Staffing Committee will meet on 26 November at 7pm before FASC to discuss and make recommendations re the 2014/15 salary review.

100.3 – Cllr Gledhill announced with regret the resignation of Cllr Green from the Council with effect from 31 December 2013 due to his impending house move. Implications of this creating a vacancy for Vice Chairman will be considered at Policy & Resources on 3 December.

100.4 – Cllr Gledhill invited Members to Christmas refreshments in the Parish Office after the December Council meeting on 17 December.

100.5 – There will be a closed session at the end of the meeting this evening to consider flood defence matters.

AGENDA ITEM 4

101. Adjournment of the meeting to allow for public participation (subject to the provisions of Standing Order 1(d))

Mr Biggs, resident of Walderslade

101.1 – Mr Biggs referred to the ESC Minutes of 22 October 2013, item 1 – double yellow lining of Woodbury Avenue. He stated his agreement to the proposal but expressed concern at the short consultation period involved. The Clerk advised Mr Biggs of the details of the consultation process. Discussion with the Parish Council and closely involved residents is only the first round of consultation. If there is tacit agreement from this group there will be a second wider consultation process before the formal decision on whether to make the appropriate traffic order is implemented.

The Chairman thanked Mr Biggs for his attendance and reopened the meeting.

AGENDA ITEM 5

102. Law and Order in the Parish

102.1 **Crime report for October** was distributed to Members and attached in the bound copy of the minutes at **Appendix A**.

AGENDA ITEM 6

103. To confirm as a correct record and to sign the minutes of the meeting held on 15 October 2013

103.1 – Page 4, 91.3, second line – delete ‘hd’ and insert ‘had’.

Subject to this amendment, the Minutes were proposed as a correct record by Cllr Gledhill, seconded Cllr Wright and **agreed**.

AGENDA ITEM 7

104. Matters Arising from the previous minutes (including those which required Members’ action)

104.1 – Page 2, 86.3 – CCTV – Laptop has been returned to the Parish Office and is in working order. Camera, currently situated at The Hollow, to be checked and then decisions made regarding upgrading/replacement required. **Clerk**

AGENDA ITEM 8

105. To receive the report of the County Councillor

Cllr Homewood reported:

105.1 – Robin Hood Lane/Tunbury Avenue – Bollards have been installed on the grass verge to prevent the parking of vehicles for sale.

105.2 – Lower Robin Hood Lane – Vehicle speeding and use of the route as a ‘rat run’ is being addressed by Kent Highways with an Automatic Traffic Count device which assesses the amount and speed of traffic. Depending on the results received from this installation of an interactive speed sign is anticipated funded from Cllr Homewood’s highways allocation.

The Chairman thanked Cllr Homewood for this report.

AGENDA ITEM 9

106. To receive the reports of the Borough Councillors

Borough Councillor Davis – Apologies received with the following report:

106.1 – **Flooding** – Cllr Davis reported that flooding in Mackenders Lane is still being investigated.

AGENDA ITEM 10

Committee reports/minutes: to consider and adopt minutes, and to deal with any matters arising

107. ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES – 22 October 2013

It was proposed by Cllr Tiller, seconded Cllr Rillie, that these minutes be accepted as a true record of the meeting and the actions proposed agreed. **AGREED**

Matters Arising/Other ESC Business

107.1 – Page 3, B. 1.1 – Annual Play Inspection – Deputy Clerk reported that a quotation from SMP for repairs to the Alien had come in at approximately £2000 less than the Wicksteed quote and had therefore been accepted. Noted.

107.2 – Page 4, 3.1 – MUGA. Clerk reported equipment installation has commenced and it due to complete, weather permitting, next week. Tracey Crouch MP is available for an official opening ceremony on 20 December at 2.30pm. It was **agreed** to proceed with this date. Clerk will make further arrangements including publicity and report to P&R (3 December) and Council 17 December). **Clerk**

108. POLICY AND RESOURCES – 5 November 2013

It was proposed by Cllr Gledhill, seconded by Cllr Base, that these minutes be accepted as a true record of the meeting and the actions proposed agreed. **AGREED**

Matters Arising/Other P&R Business

108.1 – Page 2, 8. Eccles Car Park

Following a visit he had made to the area, Cllr Ambrose sought local members assurance that they thought residents of Belgrave Street and surrounding roads would actually use the new car park. During his visit he found all road widths very restricted with parked vehicles on both sides and the existing car park full. Cllr Gledhill stated that the implications from local discussions and a survey undertaken at the beginning of this project, are that they would use a new car park even though it was a short walk from their properties, provided the site is lit and CCTV installed. The plan is also to improve the condition of the Belgrave Street rear access road which hopefully will encourage residents to park behind their properties.

108.2 – Page 2, 9. Land beyond Yoakley Land

Cllr Base reported that Tracey Crouch MP has now received a reply from KCC regarding the future of this land, which he has passed to the Clerk. It confirms that long term they wish to retain the land for future educational purposes but meanwhile are prepared to talk to the Parish Council regarding interim use. Now the Clerk has a contact at KCC he will follow this up. **Clerk**

108.3 – Page 2, 12. Flood Defences

Discussion to take place in Closed Session.

109. PLANNING – 5 November 2013

It was proposed by Cllr Wright, seconded by Cllr Elvy, that these minutes be accepted as a true record of the meeting and the actions proposed agreed. **AGREED**

Matters arising/Other Planning Business:

No report to this meeting.

AGENDA ITEM 11

110. **Accounts for Payment** – Cheque list distributed to all Members and attached at **Appendix B**.

110.1 – Cheque 009792 4th Chatham South Brownies. Cllr Tiller queried this microgrant payment for a craft session and Christmas outing but did not include purchase of sports equipment the Brownies had also requested. It was **agreed** that the Deputy Clerk should

research this with the Brownies and make the appropriate order, also to be funded from Cllr Tiller's microgrant.

Deputy Clerk

27 payments totalling £4648.17 were proposed for payment by Cllr Gledhill, seconded Cllr Elvy.

AGREED

AGENDA ITEM 12

111. To consider any other items of correspondence/Any Other Business

Available at this meeting or in the Parish Office

111.1 – T&M Citizens Advice Bureau – Thanks for donation.

111.2 – New Aylesford history book by Roy Jackson

111.3 – KCC – Paul Carter – Facing the Challenge – ‘New structure and overall direction of travel’. Comments invited by 22 November. Clerk has reviewed and believes there are no direct concerns for Parish Councils. When the changes are implemented there may be some knock on effects but not serious enough to warrant changes to the plans.

AGENDA ITEM 13

112. Chairman to move that: ‘The press and public be excluded from the remainder of the meeting as publicity for any confidential aspects of the business identified in agenda items 1 – 12 above would be likely to prejudice the public interest.’

The Council agreed the above in respect of its discussion/decisions required on Flood Defence issues and went into Closed Session commencing at 8.20pm.

Following the above it was felt that the following parts of the Closed Session minutes could be released into the public part of the minutes.

112.1 – New Quarry Owners

The Clerk reported that he had made contact with the new owners who have informed him that it will be run under the auspices of a new company – Aylesford Heritage Limited. Robert Samuel has invited representatives of the Parish Council to a meeting at the quarry and it was **agreed** that Cllrs Gledhill, Balcombe, Rillie, Mrs Gadd, Homewood and the Clerk will attend on 9 December 2013 at 11am.

112.2 – Quotation for stream survey

The Council agreed that in view of the fact that the information quoted for by Jamie Finch was already available to the Parish Council via the Environment Agency and that the Parish Council did not instigate the quotation, it would **not agree to fund this request**. Clerk to inform Mr Debnam and Jamie Finch.

Clerk

The Council further **agreed** that all future discussions relating to flood defences would take

place only directly between Parish Council representatives and the appropriate bodies ie. Environment Agency and Aylesford Heritage Limited.

AGENDA ITEM 14

113. Closure of the meeting at or before 9.30pm

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 8.35pm.